

RICK SNYDER GOVERNOR MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN STATE SUPERINTENDENT

April 15, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: Select Lead Administrators, MEGS Plus Authorized Officials, and

Title III Limited English Proficient Program Contact of Agencies

Eligible for the Section 41 Bilingual Grant

FROM: Mike Radke, Director, Office of Field Services

SUBJECT: State Section 41 Bilingual Education Grant Availability

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is pleased to announce the availability of the State Section 41 Bilingual Education Grant to fund evidence-based bilingual programs. Students eligible for funding must be English Learners/Limited English Proficient (LEP) placed in one (1) or more of the following bilingual education programs:

- 1. Two-way,
- 2. Dual language,
- 3. Heritage language,
- Transitional.

All teachers in bilingual classrooms must be bilingually endorsed, and teachers providing instruction in heritage language programs must have a world language certification.

Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) applying for Section 41 Bilingual Education Grant funds are required to enter the count of children eligible for bilingual instruction in their MEGS+ 2014 Section 41 Bilingual Education application. However, the availability of the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) has made it possible for MDE to provide accurate counts to applicants, which ensures accuracy and saves applicants from a time-consuming data project necessary to aggregate these counts. Agencies

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must use the data provided by MDE when entering counts in their MEGS+2014 Section 41 Bilingual Education application. A file with the count of agency eligible bilingual students is attached to this memo (Attachment A) and loaded to the Section 41 application in the "Program Information" section/"Section 41 Bilingual Education Agency Student Count" link. Please note this file includes only counts of students participating in one (1) of the four (4) bilingual programs noted above. The data in this file is sorted by Agency Name > Language > Grade. Detailed instructions on how to enter the data may be found in the MEGS+ application in the "Program Information" section/"Section 41 Bilingual Education Instructions for Data Entry" link.

The Section 41 Bilingual Education Grant application in MEGS+ is due to MDE no later than Wednesday, May 7, 2014. LEAs must initially submit their Section 41 application without building a budget. After the May 7 application submission deadline, MDE will calculate and announce final allocations and return the Section 41 application to LEAs for modifications so each agency can build a budget that matches their final allocation. The **minimum** per pupil allocation will be \$59.67.

The U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division has issued a memorandum to State Superintendent Mike Flanagan regarding the modification to MCL 388.1641 of the School Aid Act of 1997 (see Attachments B & C). We advise you to follow the guidance issued by the Department of Justice in administering Section 41 Bilingual programs as you make your local decisions to apply for these funds.

Since the funds will be allocated late in the current 2013-14 school year, LEAs may carry over their allocation one (1) year and implement the program during the 2014-15 school year. Additional guidance may be found in the "Important Information" section within the MEGS+ application.

Please direct questions regarding the Section 41 Bilingual Education Grant to Maria Silva, Title III Consultant, in the Office of Field Services at (517) 373-6066 or by e-mail at SilvaM@michigan.gov or to Shereen Tabrizi, Manager, Special Populations Unit at TabriziS@michigan.gov or your regional consultant. Questions regarding the MEGS+ application may be directed to Tammy Franks at FranksT1@michigan.gov.

Attachments